

Existing law provides that the city of New Orleans shall continue the operation of a public belt railroad by and through a commission to be known as the Public Belt Railroad Commission for the city of New Orleans.

Prior law provided that the commission was composed of the mayor and 16 citizen taxpayers. Provided that commission members were selected in the manner and for terms provided in Ordinance 2683, New Council Series of the city of New Orleans, approved Oct. 8, 1904.

New law instead provides that the commission is composed of the mayor and nine citizens from within the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner Metropolitan Statistical Area. Requires the mayor to appoint all nine commissioners, six must be from a list of nominations as determined by ordinance of the New Orleans City Council. Requires that all appointments be confirmed by the council. Requires appointed members to serve four-year staggered terms.

Existing law provides that the mayor is president of the commission and has the right to vote at all meetings. Prior law required that the president pro tempore be chosen by the commission from those members appointed from commercial organizations as provided in Ordinance 2683. New law requires the members of the commission to select from among themselves a president pro tem and such other officers as they deem appropriate.

New law provides that the terms of the members of the commission in office on the effective date of new law shall terminate on the effective date of new law. Requires that the members of the commission be appointed and take office and serve initial terms as provided in new law.

Effective on the first day of Jan. following voter approval of an amendment to the home rule charter of the city to provide the identical composition of the commission as contained in new law.

(Amends R.S. 33:4530(A))